

OCA 2970-89

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SEO

22 August 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

FROM: H. F. Hutchinson, Jr.
Director, Security Evaluation Office

SUBJECT: State Department and Moscow Building Options

The Ivan Selin strategy and options for the Moscow NOB were laid out in a series of meetings last week. The Intelligence Community representatives were present at one; we had access to the others through [] who is serving as our intelligence representative in Ambassador Salgo's Moscow Embassy Building Control Office (MEBCO).

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1. Decision by Secretary Baker around October, decision by the President no later than April or so.
2. Pursue three building options with Secretary Baker:
 - a. Partial rebuild (four floors) of Moscow NOB.
 - b. Take down and rebuild Moscow NOB on its present foundation.
 - c. Build new embassy on new foundation on land between NOB and the old embassy.
3. Selin will highlight the partial rebuild option on the basis that it is cheaper, quicker, and adequate. The Intelligence Community has serious reservations about this option.
4. On the basis of his sessions on the Hill in late July/early August, Selin has come to believe that Congressional opinion, as well as Intelligence Community sentiment, favors a new building and he has authorized conceptual drawings and space allocation studies to begin on a new building to be placed either on the NOB foundation or a new foundation on an adjacent site. Selin nonetheless wants to go on record (taking the advice of former HPSCI Chairman Lee Hamilton) as

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favoring the cheapest option, as do several Congressmen, to show that he has endeavored to keep costs to the minimum and fend off criticism of the cost of a completely new building if that option is ultimately adopted.

5. Ambassador Salgo is negotiating with the Soviets along these lines:

- a. They give the U.S. part or all the land between the old and new embassies in Moscow.
- b. We take down and rebuild the NOB if we do not receive new land.
- c. If we receive new land between the NOB and the EOB, we will retain the NOB for unclassified use. Perhaps as a cultural center, transient quarters, etc.
- d. If new land is received between the present two embassy sites, a new NOB could be built on a new foundation.
- e. Planning for the new building, either on the present NOB foundation or a new site, will provide for an additional floor; quiet recognition of Intelligence Community concern that previous planning has not provided sufficient secure space.
- f. The quid pro quo for the Soviets is a small strip of land between the Mt Alto compound and the embassy school area, and a building site for a new housing complex of 140-170 apartments adjacent to the Mt Alto compound.

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g. The State plan is for Secretary Baker, accompanied by you, Selin, and Salgo, to brief the Hill in late September or October in support of their options. We must discuss this in some detail as the date nears. One of my major concerns is State's inability to absorb the message that security will vary among these options, that it will be better with a new building and new site, and that a lack of secure space in the partial rebuild option could become an insurmountable security issue.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Fred", with a long, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

H. F. Hutchinson, Jr.

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D/SEO/DCI/HFHutchinson, (22 Aug 89)

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